This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-37. (Cancelled).

38. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing universal web access functionality to one or more electronic devices comprising:

a plurality of configurable Input/Output ports;

a first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports configured to ~~connect to~~ communicate with a first controllable electronic device, said first controllable electronic device configured to be controllable by a first control signal and to ~~obtain~~ transmit status information about said first controllable electronic device;

a second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports configured to ~~connect to~~ communicate with a first controller, said first controller configured to transmit said first control signal;

~~and to receive control signals from said first controller for controlling said first controllable electronic device~~, a pass through service configured to define a bi-directional path between said first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports and said second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports ~~configured~~ to ~~pass~~ enable the transmission of said first control ~~signals~~ signal received from said first controller at said second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports through ~~to~~ said first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports ~~in a manner transparent~~ to said ~~first controller~~

~~and said~~ first controllable electronic device <u>without requiring any re-programming of said</u>

<u>first controller</u>;

  a web server configured to serve a web page providing said status information

about said first controllable electronic device.

  39. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising a contention

manager managing access to said first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output

ports.

  40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said contention manager is

configured to prevent access by one or more services to said first of said plurality of

configurable Input/Output ports while a control signal received from said first controller

via said second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports is being passed

through to said first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports.

  41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said one or more services

comprise an event monitoring service for monitoring a status of said first controllable

electronic device.

  42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising a buffer configured

to temporarily store signals received at one or more of said plurality of configurable

Input/Output ports.

43. Cancelled.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said first and second configurable Input/Output ports are configured as serial Input/Output ports.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said web server is configured to receive control information for controlling said first controllable electronic device via said web page.

46.   (Currently amended) A method for providing universal web access functionality to one or more electronic devices comprising:

providing a plurality of configurable Input/Output ports on a web access apparatus;

configuring a first of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports to ~~receive a control signal from a first controller for controlling~~ communicate with a first controllable electronic device, said first controllable electronic device configured to be controllable by a first control signal and to transmit status information about said first controllable electronic device;

configuring a second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports to ~~receive status information from said first controllable electronic device~~ communicate with a first controller, said first controller configured to transmit said first control signal;

defining a bi-directional path between ~~configuring~~ said first and second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports to ~~pass~~ enable the transmission of said first

control signal <u>received from said first controller</u> from said ~~first~~ <u>second</u> of said plurality of

configurable Input/Output ports through ~~to~~ said ~~second~~ first of said plurality of

configurable Input/Output ports <u>to said first controllable electronic device without</u>

<u>requiring any re-programming of said first controller</u> ~~and to pass said status information~~

~~from said second of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports through to said first~~

~~of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports in a manner transparent to said first~~

~~controller and said first controllable electronic device~~;

configuring said web access apparatus to serve a web page providing said status

information about said first controllable electronic device.

47. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~ <u>46</u> further comprising:

configuring said web access apparatus to prevent access to said first and second of

said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports by other services when a signal is being

passed from said first of said plurality of Input/Output ports to said second of said

plurality of Input/Output ports.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~ <u>46</u> further comprising:

configuring said web access apparatus to prevent access to said first and second of

said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports by other services when a signal is being

passed from said second of said plurality of Input/Output ports to said first of said

plurality of Input/Output ports.

49. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~ <u>46</u> further comprising:

configuring a buffer to temporarily store said <u>first</u> control signal received at said

~~first~~ <u>second</u> of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports.

50. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~ <u>46</u> further comprising:

configuring a buffer to temporarily store said status information received at said

~~second~~ <u>first</u> of said plurality of configurable Input/Output ports.

51. (Original) The method of claim 49 further comprising:

configuring said buffer to provide said status information to an event monitoring

service.

52. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~ <u>46</u> further comprising:

configuring said web access device to receive control information for controlling

said first controllable electronic device via said web page.